23. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the cholesterol modifying drug is a statin drug.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein the statin drug is selected from the group consisting of atorvastatin, pravastatin, lovastatin, fluvastatin, simvastatin, and cerivastatin.

25. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the aliquot of the patient's blood has a volume of about from 0.1 to about 100 ml.

26. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the blood aliquot has been treated ex vivo with oxidative stress and UV light, and optionally with thermal stress.

27. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the oxidative stress is a chemical oxidizing agent, said chemical oxidizing agent being applied to the blood aliquot while the blood aliquot is subjected to UV light.

28. (New) The method of claim 27 wherein the chemical oxidizing agent is a gaseous mixture of ozone and oxygen, said gaseous mixture being applied by bubbling through the blood aliquot while the blood aliquot is subjected to UV light.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein a thermal stressor, in the form of a temperature above or below normal body temperature, is applied to the blood aliquot simultaneously with the gas mixture and the UV light.

30. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the UV light stressor is UV light in the UV-C band wavelength.

31. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the stressors are applied ex-vivo to the blood aliquot for a period of from about 2 to about 5 minutes.

32. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the cholesterol modifying drug is atorvastatin administered at a daily dosage of from about 5 to about 200 mg.

33. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the cholesterol modifying drug is pravastatin administered at a daily dosage of from about 5 to about 200 mg.

34. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the cholesterol modifying drug is simvavastatin administered at a daily dosage of from about 5 to about 200 mg.

35. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the cholesterol modifying drug is fluvastatin administered at a daily dosage of from about 5 to about 200 mg.

36. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the cholesterol modifying drug is lovastatin administered at a daily dosage of from about 5 to about 200 mg.

37. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the cholesterol modifying drug is cerivastatin administered at a daily dosage of from about 5 to about 200 mg.

38. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein administration of the cholesterol modifying drug occurs prior to administration of the blood that has been treated ex vivo with one or more stressors.

39. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein administration of the cholesterol modifying drug occurs simultaneously with administration of the blood that has been treated ex vivo with one or more stressors.

40. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein administration of the cholesterol modifying drug overlaps administration of the blood that has been treated ex vivo with one or more stressors.

41. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein administration of the blood that has been treated ex vivo with one or more stressors occurs prior to administration of the cholesterol modifying drug.

42. (New) A method of slowing or arresting the progression and/or effecting the regression of atherosclerotic plaque deposits and/or improving the stability of such plaques in a mammalian patient, the method comprising administering to the patient a cholesterol modifying drug and an aliquot of the patient's own blood which has been treated ex vivo with one or more stressors, selected from the group consisting of an oxidative stress, thermal stress, and UV light.

43. (New) A method of reducing serum lipid levels and/or combating the development of atherosclerosis in a mammalian patient, the method comprising:

a) administering to the patient an aliquot of the patient's own blood which has been treated ex vivo with one or more stressors, selected from the group consisting of, an oxidative stress, thermal stress, and UV light; and

b) administering to the patient a cholesterol-lowering drug.

44. (New) A method of enhancing the reduction in serum lipid levels in a mammalian patient caused by administration of a cholesterol-lowering drug, the method comprising:

a) administering to the patient an aliquot of the patient's own blood which has been treated ex vivo with one or more stressors, selected from the group consisting of an oxidative stress, thermal stress, and UV light; and

b) administering to the patient a cholesterol-lowering drug.

45. (New) The method of claim 38 wherein the cholesterol-lowering drug is a statin drug.

46. (New) The method of claim 39 wherein the cholesterol-lowering drug is a statin drug.

47. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein the cholesterol-lowering drug is a statin drug.

48. (New) In a method for treating a mammalian subject with a lipid profile lowering drug wherein the improvement comprises administering to the mammalian subject an aliquot of the mammal's blood that has been treated ex vivo with one or more stressors, selected from the group consisting of oxidative stress, thermal stress, and UV light.